



**TESTIMONY TO THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE ON RAISED BILL S.B. 948, AN ACT ADDRESSING  
EDUCATION FUNDING AND RACIAL EQUITY**

March 3, 2021

Co-Chairs Senator McCrory and Representative Sanchez, Ranking Members Senator Berthel and Representative McCarty, and distinguished members of the Education Committee:

My name is Yolanda Stinson. I'm a mother, grandmother and great grandmother from Bridgeport. I'm also a proud member of FaithActs for Education and I am here in support of SB 948.

The education system here in Bridgeport is proof enough of the unequal distribution of Educational Funding. My grandson and niece attend Bassick High School. Besides the state of the building (which is about to be brand new), there is a higher dropout rate than there are graduating students. They have nowhere near enough funding to do anything. They don't even have the funding to properly secure the building!

My grandson and all the other children in Bridgeport are suffering. They are not receiving the quality of education that they deserve. I have three great-grandchildren, a set of identical twin boys and a great granddaughter who are all three years old. I fear for them as they begin their educational journey here.

I want my grandson to graduate in two years with A CHANCE TO COMPETE TO GET INTO A GOOD COLLEGE! Why do I have to beg for something that is a given for the high schoolers down the road? My great grandchildren deserve to enter school in 2 years with a solid chance at success.

Please say yes to SB 948. Say yes to ending education discrimination in Connecticut!

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